Equal Rights

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Clara Guthrie d'Arcis

American-born citizen of the world, now resident in Geneva. Member of the League of Nations Consultative Committee of Women on Nationality; President and Founder of the World Union of Women for International Concord; member of Joint Nationality Committee of International Women's Organizations

Equal Rights

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution Number 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929,
by Senator Gerald P. Nye, North Dakota.
Introduced in the House April 25, 1929,
by Representative Frederick W. Magrady,
Pennsylvania.

Application of Equality

FIVE points are made by the Consultative Committee of Women on Nationality, set up by the League of Nations, as the "most important and necessary applications" of the principle of equality in nationality asked by the committee in its report to the Assembly of the League.

These points are:

1. That marriage should no more affect the nationality of a woman than it affects the nationality of a man;
2. That the right of a woman to retain her nationality or to change it by naturalization, de-nationalization, or de-naturalization should not be denied or abridged because she is a married woman.
3. That the nationality of a woman, whether married or unmarried, should not be changed or lost except under conditions which cause a man to change or lose his nationality;
4. That facilities of choice should be given to either spouse on marriage to take the nationality of the other;
5. That with respect to the derivation of nationality from a parent the nationality of one parent should be given no preference over that of the other.

In this country some of these points have been written into the nationality law. Some have not. Chiefly, the woman national of the United States has not the same right to transmit her nationality to a child born on foreign soil as has the man national of the United States. Further, an American woman, but not an American man, can definitely exercise a choice of nationality upon marriage to an alien. The alien wife, but not the alien husband, of a national of the United States can be naturalized more quickly than can another alien person. The naturalization of an alien mother is not transmitted to her minor child unless she is the head of the family, whereas the naturalization of an alien father is transmitted to his minor child regardless of the mother's nationality.

Otherwise, the nationality laws of the United States are practically equal as between men and women. Certain injustices remain, of course, because of some difficulties of repatriation of women who lost their nationality by marriage to aliens, without any wish of their own. Such repatriation laws do not affect men because none of them lost their nationality under such conditions. Likewise, a native-born woman who has never intentionally given up her citizenship may be deported, but it could never happen to a man.

In the related subject of immigration, some inequalities between men and women remain to be worked out of United States law, but these matters were not touched by the Women's Consultative Committee.

Women of the United States should continue their campaign in Congress for the complete equalization of the nationality laws, now so nearly completed, and should watch to see that no international law is written which would in any way abrogate the rights they have or prohibit those yet to be gained.

As the Women's Consultative Committee pointed out:

"The codification of international law should be founded upon equality and justice."

The Assembly of the League of Nations in September will be asked to use its influence toward that end, thanks to the work of that unique and brilliant committee of women which met at Geneva and demanded justice and equality.

A Wise Judgment

JUDGE ALONZO L. BATES of Indiana has rendered a sapient judgment on the right of a married woman to work, from which several paragraphs are quoted in "Feminist Notes" in this issue of Equal Rights.

Not only is it illegal to deny a married woman the right to continue teaching in a State which has a teachers' tenure law, but a law which made marriage the basis for removal of a teacher would be unconstitutional, since women have the right to marry, he said.

Particularly wise and sensible is his view that the husband and father, as well as the wife and mother, must give attention, thought, and time to his household, and that a man who does not do so, if a husband and father, would not be a suitable person to instruct children. We are delighted that the man's contribution to homemaking is thus judicially recognized.

Clara Guthrie D'Arcis and the Three L's

By Muna Lee

THE roses of a Swiss July rioted along the terraces of Les Troiselles —red roses on rose-trees, pink roses on pillars, climbing roses cascading in creamy foam over a trellis, exuberant bright blossoms on innumerable bushes behind trim low box-hedges. Clara Guthrie d'Arcis, mistress of Les Troiselles, moved among her guests, fellow-members of the Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality, who had for this one evening cast aside the responsibilities laid upon them by the League of Nations.

Les Troiselles—the Three L's! House and hostess alike were the embodiment of its device, "L. L. L., Malgré Tout." One L for Love, deepening with the years; one L for Labor, becoming constantly more joyous; and one L for Loyalty, growing ever more steadfast. These three, against all odds.

The odds have been great for Mme. d'Arcis, which makes her victory the more notable. She was born in New Orleans, daughter of James B. Guthrie, a distinguished member of the Louisiana bar, and was reared by her grandparents, Judge E. T. Merrick, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, and Caroline E. Merrick, a pioneer of the suffrage movement in the South. This grandmother used to take the small and sometimes reluctant Clara to suffrage meetings, and once the little girl heard her express a fervent desire which stayed with the child and has undoubtedly helped color the outlook of the woman.

"I am tired of talking always to the same group," cried Caroline Merrick to one of those early suffrage meetings. "I want to get at the women—out there. There is all the strength we need, in those millions of women who cannot attend our meetings. If we could have them united, we could transform the world!"

Mme. d'Arcis has devoted the energy of a generous and idealistic nature, for years, to the uniting of women and the building through this union of a world nearer to the heart's desire. After her graduation from Sophie Newcomb; after the charming leisurely life of a society woman in New Orleans and a subsequent sudden but surprising business career in the old Southern city; after marriage, motherhood, and widowhood; she found herself, by a series of chances, in Switzerland. And to her there one day came a cable telling her that everything she possessed had been completely, melodramatically, lost. After various efforts to find work that would support herself and her children in comfort, she suddenly recalled how hard housekeeping abroad was for her, without the innumerable household conveniences of the United States. "Other women would be glad to have these labor-savers, too!" she told herself. Katherine Glover has transcribed vividly Mme. d'Arcis's account of the ensuing adventure:

"It was a homely little list I made out, ending ambitiously with a vacuum cleaner. With a few character references from old friends at home, I sat down and wrote to the American manufacturers. Some cry of my soul must have gone into those letters. They were simple and direct. I told them I could not pay for the orders in advance and asked for small consignments on credit, promising that if I made good the consignments would be larger.

Les Troiselles

Residence of Clara Guthrie d'Arcis at Bellevue-Genthod, near Geneva, where Mme. d'Arcis entertained her fellow-members of the League of Nations Consultative Committee on Nationality

"Well, that's how the great adventure started, and great adventure it has been to me from the very first. I've found more romance in a day in business than is packed into the usual best-seller.

"I've often wondered why those manufacturers trusted me, but they did—some of them, at least. Many of them are still my clients, although business has long since passed out of the small-wares class. The first consignment to arrive was the vacuum cleaners, three of them. I had not anticipated their coming and it so happened that that day a friend had invited me to go on a visit to the St. Bernard monastery in the Swiss Alps, and I had accepted. I was in a dilemma because the invitation was a cherished one—and yet every day counted in the fight against the ebbing exchequer. I decided to take one of the cleaners along with me just on a chance. When we reached the retreat of the kindly monks, I showed them my new-world invention. It was an unforgettable experience to break into the mountain stillness of their monastery with the whirring, whizzing vacuum while the good brothers stood looking on in amazement.

"They bought the cleaner! Since then they have become my very good friends and I have installed many modern devices from the U. S. A. in their retreat."

In time she became full half-partner with Ludovic Charles d'Arcis of Geneva—a partnership later cemented by marriage—in a large firm she founded for the importation of American machines and automobiles. And so one of the L's, joyous labor, was exemplified!

During the war, Mme. d'Arcis assisted in furthering economic relations between the land of her adoption and the land of her birth. She planned and initiated the organization of a Swiss mission to the United States to explain Switzerland's neutrality and to obtain American wheat. Switzerland was at the time threatened with a boycott which would have meant starvation; but the mission obtained the wheat.

Later, Mme. d'Arcis intervened successfully with the United States Department of Commerce for the establishment of parcel post service between the United States and Switzerland. She was one of the pioneers for feeding the child victims of the war in Europe; and was a founder and for five years a member of the executive committee of the "Save the Children" fund. She is a member of the Liaison Committee of the International Council of Women. In February, 1915, she founded the World Union of Women for International Concord. Ever since she has been president of its central bureau in Geneva, an ardent worker for permanent peace. Her recent appointment as a representative of the Union on the League of Nations Consultative Committee on Nationality was a cause of satisfaction at home and abroad. All these things show the strength in her life of the second L, generous and unselfish love. While through her life and work, loyalty runs, strengthening and binding the whole.

Such careers as those of Clara Guthrie d'Arcis—international in scope, touching a thousand lives in every day's activities; wholly Feminist, with that Feminism which unites experience, insight, and comprehending sympathy—are in many ways typical of our era. Their existence and increasing numbers is one of the most certain promises for the future of the world.

There were many of these women who are building for the future, with her, that evening, at Les Troiselles. Women from the Americas, women from Europe, women from Asia, united in securing a new freedom for women the world over, with loyalty the web and love the woof of their labor.

Women In Korea

THERE'S not much talk or hope or thought of Equal Rights in Korea and probably won't be until the Koreans gain their independence from Japan but women of Korea are gaining independence of a sort, according to Mrs. Harry E. Hull, wife of the Commissioner of Immigration, who spoke at the National Woman's Party garden party tea July 26.

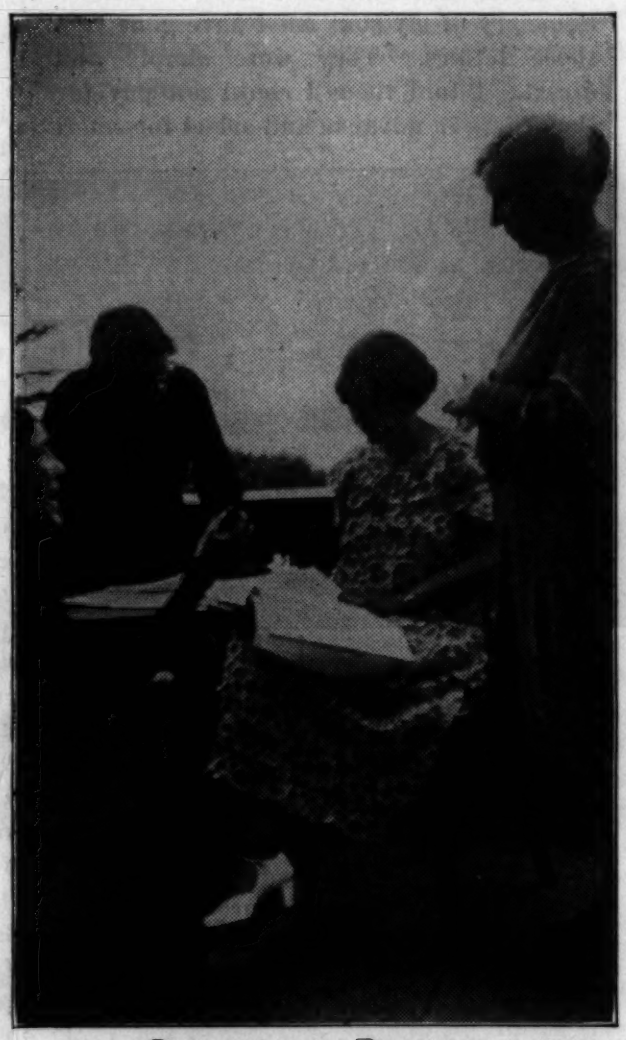
Mrs. Hull spent four years teaching in missionary schools in Korea ten years ago and she knows the country thoroughly. Her greatest plea in regard to the atti tude of the United States and its citizens toward Korea and other oriental nations is that they go to them and deal with them in the spirit of learning something as well as of teaching. The only possible world friendship must come about through understanding, Mrs. Hull said, and she doubts the western world's understanding of the oriental.

Too many casual travelers journey to Korea and report it as a country of tiny villages made up of mud huts, a country of solemn-faced natives, above all, a backward country. They do not consider the climate or the religion, both so important, as reasons for difference in custom and mode of living, according to Mrs. Hull. They know nothing of the country's history, of the long period of its past when it was practically a hermit nation unopened to the world. They forget its traditions and its background and remember only a naturally unfortunate comparison with their countries, when measured by their standards.

Korean women are working for the same thing that American women are working for, Mrs. Hull said, but these identical ideas and ideals must be worked out differently. Korean women are seeking independence, and to gain and to use this independence they need education. When Mrs. Hull was first teaching in Korea, not a single Korean woman could read or write and girls had to run away from home to go to school. Now they go as freely as young boys and they do much of the teaching. Korean women are also acting as nurses.

Their next hope of equality will probably be in matrimonial affairs. At present the lot of a bride in Korea is far from pleasant. She goes into her husband's family, practically as a slave to her mother-in-law and all other in-laws. Very few of the newly-wed Korean couples live by themselves despite increased education and training. The ancient—and not so very ancient at that—method of obtaining a wife in Korea was to purchase one for two geese through a go-between. This is somewhat altered today and there are even cases of church weddings, somewhat fantastically anglicized, but the situation after the wedding is much the same.

The Koreans have a culture of their own but their understanding of western culture and customs is merely that of hearsay, or of reflections and gleanings from occidental movies. An amusing church wedding which Mrs. Hull witnessed was that of a Christian Korean girl and her lover. She was a very modern young bride, a graduate of a Christian school, and she intended to have a Christian wedding. The setting was perfect, in the large Methodist Church with a new pipe organ pealing out Lohengrin's wedding march. Korean hairdressing with hair piled high on elaborate and huge hairpins is too magnificent to cover with a hat—too difficult too, but the little Korean bride thought a church wedding called for a hat. So in came the bride's mother, ahead of the bride, carrying a cushion on which rested a fabulous purple velvet hat.



Committee Recess

Left to Right: Margery I. Corbett Ashby and Betsy Bakker Nort, International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship; Alice Paul, Inter-American Commission of Women; and Maria Verone, International Council of Women, discuss matters during a recess of the Consultative Committee of Women on Nationality at the League of Nations

Mrs. Hull doubts that our customs and traditions, culture and knowledge are much better for them than theirs. She has learned far more from them than they have learned from her, she says.

Korea, lying between China and Russia, is still subject to Japanese rule which began in 1910. An unsuccessful uprising took place some years ago and since that time the Japanese rule has been both wiser and kinder but Korea still wants its freedom. It is a nation of large, finely built people, probably first-cousins of the neighboring Chinese. Their national costume is a pleated full skirt and little eton-like jacket. White seems to be the national color and only the children in their bright Joseph coats of many colors brighten the Korean scene.

Her one great accomplishment both in Korea and Japan, she believes, was in teaching her pupils how to laugh and to play. Her gymnasium classes in Korea were successful only when she let her students dress in fantastic costumes and go through elaborate drills, for though they do not know how to play games, they are born actors.

It is difficult to understand Orientals and their lives, Mrs. Hull admits, but it should be likewise difficult to prescribe their lives for them. A woman of India, a country which Mrs. Hull also knows well, was a "victim" of the oft-lamented Purdah system. She was only one of 500 wives, yet she inspired the most beautiful memorial ever dreamed of or built to a woman, the mystic Taj Mahal. And so, asks Mrs. Hull, who knows what is best for the Oriental, the Oriental or the Occidental?

FOLLOWING Mrs. Hull's talk, Muna Lee, director of national activities of the National Woman's Party, made a brief talk, illustrated by a mammoth bulletin board of clippings and pictures, about the achievements of the Consultative Committee of Women on Nationality at Geneva.

Many members of the National Woman's Party are members of this unique and important committee though the Party is not represented as an independent organization. Alice Paul is leading the work, most of it being based on her monumental nationality report, which has traveled to Havana for acceptance by the Inter-American Commission of Women, and to The Hague as a book of last reference at the Codification Conference of last year.

Laura Berrien spoke informally urging everyone to buy copies of Sylvia Pankhurst's book, "The Suffragist Movement in England," because of its own inherent interest and because that movement, in which Alice Paul worked with Mrs. Pankhurst, was the forerunner and ancestor of the suffragist movement in this country.

On her table with her copies of the

Pankhurst book, Miss Berrien had banners and trophies of the English militant campaign. Two of the National Woman's Party's oldest members were present at the July 26 tea. They were Fannie Wolfson and Carrie Harrison.

Miss Harrison made a little speech telling of the first suffragist speech made in Eastern Iowa, one she made herself when 15 years old. The school—a little red schoolhouse—wanted to have a debate on whether or not women should vote but no one would dare take the affirmative, so reckless little Miss Harrison was given the task.

She memorized some of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's writings and some of the Cary girls' poems and without knowing just what they really meant but being very earnest about it, she mounted the desk in the crowded school room and won the debate from her preacher rival, whose speech was "dull as a tax report."

The preacher never spoke to her or her mother again, she relates, but referred to them as "a bold, bad woman" and "a bad little girl who will come to a bad end."

A Newspaperwoman in Washington Journalism

(This is the text of an address by Ruby A. Black, Washington correspondent, and Managing Editor of Equal Rights, over the Columbia Broadcasting System, Wednesday, July 29. She was guest speaker in a period devoted to newspaper men and women arranged by Bill Schudt of C.B.S. The period is known as "Bill Schudt's Going to Press." Miss Black operates her own news bureau, serving nine newspapers in Wisconsin, Maine, Nebraska, and Western New York. She spoke from Columbia's Washington studios.)

I TAKE this assignment from Columbia Broadcasting System as I take an assignment from one of the nine daily newspapers in four States for which I gather news in Washington; that is, I take it as a reporter, not as a woman reporter.

The toughest part of a woman's work in Washington journalism is to get a job. I know this because it took me a year to find a Washington news bureau chief bold enough to hire me as a reporter. I know it also because I have tried to help scores of other newspaper women get jobs in Washington. For about two hundred weary days in 1925 I was told by newspapermen all the things women cannot do. I had done most of them. I knew other women who were doing the rest. Finally an employer saw a chance to get an experienced reported cheap. He hired me and gave me every opportunity. It is almost impossible for a woman to get a reporting job unless she accepts lower pay than would a man of similar training and ability.

Once a woman gets a job as a reporter or correspondent in Washington, there is no city in which it is easier for her to gather news.

I have never found it harder to get news than it would be if I were a man. True, when I got my first job here, one Congressman's secretary informed me he did not think I would find much "female news" around that office. I told him that if I found any "female news" anywhere, I would put it in a museum. I found plenty of news in that office in the next three years. But the museum is still without "female news."

It is not hard to gather facts in Washington. The town is piled high with them. The difficult job is to sift the truth out of masses of conflicting facts. Brains, energy, curiosity, determination, and discrimination are what count. Sex doesn't matter.

One of the ablest correspondents, of either sex, in sifting the truth out of all the facts and all the opinions is Ruth Finney of the Scripps-Howard newspapers. It was a break for Washington journalism and a sad day for officials who prefer that the truth not be known when Ruth Finney was sent to Washington from California, where she had been city editor of a newspaper, to write national news and editorials.

She told so clearly and so completely the truth about the oil scandals, for example, that attorneys for the oil scandal principals barred anybody who had read her news stories from juries that were to determine the guilt of these men.

When the Federal Power Commission was reorganized, the President announced he was about to appoint a certain man chairman of it. Ruth Finney and another woman reporter set out to unearth his record on the vastly important power question to see what he knew and believed about the subject. At the end of a day of searching through dusty documents, these two women laid the facts before Senators and published them in their newspapers. They also gave the facts to other newspaper correspondents. The President never sent that nomination to the Senate for confirmation because no Senator of importance could thereafter be found to support the candidate.

The current anonymous book about Washington, "Merry Go Round," gives credit for this achievement to the whole group of hard-working and independent correspondents in the Press Galleries. True, many newspapers published the record of that man, but the story was dug up by those two women and no other facts were ever put forward.

Both men and women do all the kinds of newspaper work there are to do in Washington. Yes, there is a man cleverly reporting society news for papers in Washington and elsewhere.

Only four of the Washington bureaus of metropolitan newspapers have women reporters — the New York *Times,* for which Winifred Mallon works; the Indianapolis *News,* for which Gertrude Marsden writes; the *Christian Science Monitor,* which has Mary Hornaday on its staff; and the Chicago *Tribune,* which last year brought Genevieve Forbes Herrick, one of the country's best newspaper writers, to its Washington bureau.

Of the large news agencies, only the *Associated Press* has women reporters in its Washington bureau. You who read newspapers using the AP service see the names of Bess Furman, Sue McNamara, and Marguerite Young signed to many stories of Washington life. But you read many more stories written by them to which no name is signed. You may never suspect that a story on such a technical subject as railroad consolidation, freight rates, flood control, power regulation, the tariff, or some aspect of national politics is written by a woman reporter. Hundreds of times it is.

Women find their greatest scope in Washington news work in the group of bureaus which report local angle news out of Washington to smaller city newspapers, and thus interpret the national government direct to the people. Often these correspondents writing "home-town stuff" are nearly as close to the people of the regions they serve as are the Congressmen who represent those districts.

We—for I am of this group — must know the interests of those communities, often scattered throughout the country. For example, I and the two excellent women reporters who work in my bureau represent papers in Maine, Wisconsin, Nebraska, and Western New York, of widely divergent character. We must become intimate parts of those communities. To illustrate, I must be a lobster fisherman in Maine (wondering all the time what the lobster fisherman buys half as delicious as the stuff he sells), a corn or wheat grower in Nebraska, worried about grasshoppers and surplusses, a dairy farmer in Wisconsin, wishing the tariff were higher, a furniture maker in New York. Of course, I must be a score of other things for each State, and know their politics and their society as well.

We are called upon for all kinds of service, not only to the newspapers but to the communities. I have been asked by editors to do everything from getting a Washington telephone directory to persuading the army to send airplanes to participate in the dedication of the mu-

nicipal airport to telling the community how to get a radio station or a bigger appropriation for its new post office building.

One day a government official telephoned to inquire if he could come to see me. When he arrived, he astonished me by telling me that he knew I had been largely responsible for getting Congress to pass a bill providing a building for his bureau in a city in which I represent a newspaper, and asking me to use my influence with the House Appropriations Committee to prevent cutting his bureau's appropriation for the following year. The fact is that I had really done nothing to get the bill through Congress. A Cabinet member, a Senator, a Governor, and a newspaper publisher had seen to that. I had merely asked a committee chairman when he was going to report it. It was a coincidence, I think, that he reported it the next day. I explained to the official that members of the Press Gallery cannot lobby. I think he was convinced only when Congress persisted in cutting out the funds he had asked me to save.

Because of the kinds of communities we represent, we become specialists. One of the chief farm question specialists on Capitol Hill is Flora G. Orr of the St. Paul *News*. Those of us in States where water power is a vital question become water power experts. Because of the interest of one of our papers in transportation problems, Dorothea Lewis of my bureau is rapidly becoming an expert on the Interstate Commerce Commission—so much so that railroad and shippers' attorneys are impressed with her clear comprehension.

ONE may think of New England as most conservative, but three of the women in the Press Galleries represent New England papers. The Maine newspapers are exclusively represented by women, my able and energetic competitor, Elizabeth May Craig of the Portland *Press-Herald* and *Evening Express;* and myself in my capacity as correspondent for the Portland *Evening News,* a paper which has in four years distinguished itself for its integrity and enterprise.

In half dozen New England cities people have for many years read dispatches from Washington signed "Richards." Once they were written by a man. For a long time now they have been written by that man's widow, Mrs. George F. Richards, the oldest of the women in the Press Gallery and one of the most active.

The Washington newspapers have few women straight news reporters. Martha Strayer of the *Daily News,* president of the Women's National Press Club, is outstanding in this group. Washington has the distinction of being the only city of its size in which a woman is editor-in-chief of a daily newspaper. Eleanor Medill Patterson, as editor of Mr. Hearst's Washington *Herald,* has increased the circulation of that paper and has had the acumen to draw to her standard several clever newspaper women and men, including Ruth Jones, better known as Jean Eliot, a society editor whose page is worth reading for important news as well as entertaining sidelights on society.

WIDELY as these newspaper women might disagree with me on many subjects, I believe none of them would deny that the people from whom we get news, from the President to the janitor in a House of Representatives committee room, treat us exactly as they treat men to whom they give news. That treatment is determined by the attitude of the newspapers we represent or by our own personalities —and theirs.

For example, one Senator won't give me news because my paper opposes him. Another Senator talks as confidentially and as freely with me as he does with anybody, although I represent six papers in his State, all of which fight him bitterly.

There are Senators and Congressmen and government officials who talk more freely and fully to some newspaper women than to other newspaper reporters. This is not on account of their sex. It is on account of personal contacts and experience.

I HAVE said that those from whom we get news make no distinctions based on sex. That is true, as far as officials are concerned. But in Washington, most correspondents get much news from other newspaper people. It is years, usually, before a woman is admitted to the fraternity, years before anybody offers her a "black sheet," as a carbon copy of a news story is called, years before other newspaper men give her tips and ask her for information in the way they trade with their male colleagues. In fact, I don't think any of the major "black sheet gangs," as the news-swappers are called, has a woman member.

Of course, when the men learn that a woman is likely to be able to be of such assistance to them that they get more than they give, the newspaper woman is taken into the Press Gallery gossip fests. There are now dozens of newspaper men who treat me as one of themselves. But there were none, except my husband, Herbert Little of the *United Press,* when I first entered the Press Gallery six years ago.

The most glaring instance of the feeling of newsmen toward newswomen came when several women who are members of the White House Correspondents' Association applied, in routine manner, for reservations for the annual dinner of the association, at which the President of the United States is guest of honor. I believe that even the confirmation of the nomination of a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States caused less controversy in the Press Gallery than that occasion. Through a subterfuge which deceived nobody, the women were finally denied reservations.

The only other drawback of being a woman is the kidding some of our regular news sources have to undergo. Hardly a day passes when Congress is in session that a Congressman from the State of Maine may not be found sitting on one of the leather divans in the Speaker's Lobby with May Craig on one side and me on the other.

Whenever that is true, we are constantly interrupted by the clever remarks of passing congressmen who facetiously want to know how John Nelson or Wallace White manage to find themselves always surrounded by charming women. We have to smile weakly as if we did not mind and tell them that they, too, would be so surrounded if the papers in their States had the wits to employ women correspondents.

Bob Bacon of Long Island and Dick Aldrich of Rhode Island, two rich young Congressmen, are among the most persistent of these wisecrackers. Yet when I used to go daily to Bob Bacon's office for news for a Long Island paper, he never seemed to observe my sex.

The other day a young woman reporter who goes to the White House daily for news inquired of the press room in general, "Any excitement today?"

The coy answer from a newspaper man was, "There's always excitement when you come in."

Now she is a very bright girl and wasn't taken in by that kind of left-handed flattery. Being an amateur actor as well as a bright girl, she pretended to be amused and pleased. But the news sources are not coy with her.

THEN, too, it is amusing, when not annoying, to observe the calm assumption that Washington newspaper correspondents are men. I am always receiving advertisements for men's clothes, although I never wear them. More than one editor who knew my work but not me has written me letters addressed to Ruby A. Black, Esq. As long as the Coolidges were in the White House, they always invited Mr. Ruby A. Black to White House receptions, although when Mrs. Coolidge entertained the women's press club, she invited Miss Ruby A. Black.

But the real shock came when I learned that the night editor of one of my papers had been reading my copy for a year without ever having thought that I might be other than a man. Upon reflection he explained that his bootlegger's first name was Ruby and he was a man, and that was why, he supposed, it had never occurred to him that I might be a woman.

You who are listening to me are the readers of newspapers, not the makers of

newspapers. You do not care whether the news is written by a man or a woman, a person with brown hair or red hair or no hair. The makers of newspapers used to think that you liked to read the lurid story of the lady ax murderer written by a woman. They are not so sure of that any more. They still think you would rather read the story of a conference of statesmen written by a man.

So, you see, the makers of newspapers are not as likely to hire women to write the inside tale of the girl who killed her sweetie as they once were, and are not yet likely to hire women, no matter how well versed in international finance or diplomacy, to tell you about ponderous international conferences heavy with meaning to the whole world, meaning that is so rarely made clear to the ordinary college professor or grocer or realtor or bridge player or automobile mechanic or doctor with about the same average intelligence as yours and mine. Perhaps when the publishers learn that you don't care who writes the story, just so it is clear and interesting and means something to you, more women will have newspaper jobs in Washington.

When that time comes, no one will be asked to tell you about it on the radio merely because she is a woman, as I was asked, for sex will not matter. May it be soon, for while newswomen will then get less publicity, they will have greater opportunity and more money.

Press Comment

Women Oppose Sex Legislation

The Evening Sun, Baltimore, Md., July 10, 1931.

GOVERNOR ALBERT C. RITCHIE today received a letter from the Business and Professional Women's Council of Maryland protesting against the "so-called protective legislation for women," which was advocated at the recent Eastern Interstate Conference, called by Governor Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania.

The letter, signed by M. Le Clare Peach, corresponding secretary of the Council, stated: "We understand that the State of Maryland was represented in a recent Eastern Interstate Conference called by Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania, and that the Committee on Administration of Labor Laws recommended a minimum wage law for women, a 48-hour week law for women, a law eliminating night work for women, and other provisions applicable only to women.

"We wish to make a vigorous protest against such unjust recommendations.

"This organization believes that labor legislation should be enacted for all workers, based on the nature of the work instead of the sex of the worker. 'Protective' legislation that applies to women, but exempts men, handicaps women's economic welfare. It limits the woman worker's scope of activity and increases that of the man by barring her from certain occupations, by excluding her from employment at night, and by 'protecting' her to such an extent as to render her ineffective as a competitor.

"Furthermore, to restrict the conditions of women's work and not those of men fortifies the harmful assumption that to labor for pay is primarily the prerogative of the male and that women are a class apart who are only allowed to engage in paid work at special hours, under special supervision and subject to special governmental regulations.

"It is significant that although the proposal for labor laws applying exclusively to women is ostensibly for the protection of women, yet manufacturers in States having an 8-hour law for women only are demanding a uniform law so that they may compete with manufacturers in States not having such a law.

"We are emphatically against any labor legislation whatsoever applying to women only, and sincerely hope Maryland will take no part in attempting such a program."

The conference referred to in Miss Peach's letter was held at Harrisburg in June and was attended by representatives of ten Eastern States.

Helen Elizabeth Brown, Baltimore lawyer, is the president of the Business and Professional Women's Council of Maryland.

City Women Protest Alleged Unfairness

Sun, Baltimore, Md., July 9, 1931.

THE Business and Professional Women's Council of Maryland, through a committee appointed for the purpose, protested today to Mayor Howard W. Jackson at the City Hall against "discrimination against women in the so-called merit system."

Helen Elizabeth Brown, president of the Council and chairman of the committee, was spokesman for the group.

"We are here to protest against the illegal practice of the City Service Commission in making up separate lists for men and women," said Miss Brown. "This is a rank violation of the Baltimore City Charter, which provides that lists shall be arranged in the order of the relative standing of applicants and that the list certified to the appointing officer by the Commission shall include only the five persons standing highest on the eligible list.

"When separate lists of five men and five women are prepared," the president of the Business and Professional Women's Council went on, "there are names on both lists which have no right to be there. Nowhere does the city service provision of the Charter refer to men or women; it applies to persons and distinctly says that appointments shall be based on merit, efficiency, character and industry.

"Under this system of separate lists," she continued, "the merit system is only 50 per cent. effective."

In concluding her remarks, Miss Brown said to Mayor Jackson: "We felt that once this situation was brought to your attention you would remedy it by directing the City Service Commission to carry out its duties according to the law and the City Charter."

At the close of the hearing the Mayor declared that he agreed with Miss Brown about the basic principles of the merit system, and added that he would take the matter up with the City Service Commission later in the day.

Their Baby a Foreigner?

New York Daily News, July 21, 1931.

PARIS, July 20 (U.P.).—Vivian Duncan, of the Duncan sisters team, found today that her baby, born abroad, may not be permitted to enter the United States with her.

Miss Duncan appealed to her husband, Nils Asther, the Swedish movie star, to intercede with the State Department and the Swedish Embassy at Washington, so that the child, Evelyn Rosetta, could be brought into the United States on Miss Duncan's American passport.

The child was born at a twilight sleep clinic in Bavaria, after Miss Duncan had been warned by her American doctors that she would die if the birth occurred in the United States.

See Admission of Child as Non-Quota Immigrant

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 20 (U.P.). — Vivian Duncan's child, born in Germany of an American mother and a Swedish father, is a foreigner under United States laws, but immigration and State Department officials said today they believed it could be admitted readily as a non-quota immigrant.

Another phase of the peculiar nationality mix-up was suggested by the National Woman's Party: That the United States laws are such that the child would be legally a United States citizen, and admissible, if the mother were unmarried.

State Department officials said that since the child's father is a Swedish subject, the child is a citizen of his country. Assistant Immigration Commissioner George Harris said that if Miss Duncan has retained her United States citizenship she would have no trouble in obtaining a non-quota immigrant visa for it.

Finds Women Underpaid

New York Times, June 10, 1931.

"LARGE corporations are profuse in bestowing titles upon women employees, but the large salaries go to the men," said Mrs. Anna Schlorer Smith of Philadelphia, vice-president of the National Soroptomist Clubs, in a speech at a joint luncheon meeting at the Claridge today of the Atlantic City Soroptomist Club and members of the Women's Committee of the National Electric Light Association.

"In ninety-five cases out of a hundred, if a woman is promoted to a $10,000 a year job, the salary is decreased to $5,000," she said. "If a woman asks her employer why she receives $5,000 for a $10,000 a year job, she is told 'because a woman should be able to get along on $5,000.' The merit of a woman employee is not taken into consideration."

Committee Approves Unequal Bill

Atlanta Constitution, Atlanta, Georgia, July, 1931.

A BILL by the Richmond delegation prohibiting night labor of women and minors under 18 years of age was approved Thursday night by the Labor and Labor Statistics Committee of the House, and another bill by the same delegation, limiting the daily and weekly working hours of textile mills, was referred back to the authors to be redrawn.

The second bill, as originally drawn, limits textile mill employees, in silk, rayon, cotton, or woolen mills, to an 8-hour day and 48-hour week. The bill will be redrawn on a 10-55-hour basis, with a provision exempting knitting mills, which operate under seasonal conditions.

Those speaking in favor of the bills were Mrs. Emmett Quinn, J. B. Daniel of Augusta, Miss Lillian Wade, A. Steve Nance, and members of the Richmond delegation, Representatives Lanier, Lester and Cartledge. Opposed to the night labor bill were Mrs. Douglas Swaggerty of Atlanta, and Miss Josephine Casey of Washington, representing the National Woman's Party.

Feminist Notes

Women Teachers Win

MARRIAGE is not a lawful ground for dismissal of a teacher from the Indiana public schools under the Indiana teachers' tenure law, Judge Alonzo L. Bales of Winchester ruled, according to the Indianapolis *News*.

Judge Bales said:

"The professional and industrial employment of women has vastly increased within the last few decades and it is beyond the power of the Legislature to prohibit women from engaging in any ordinary occupation, because whether married or unmarried the woman is unquestionably a citizen. Had the Legislature of Indiana declared in the teachers' tenure law that marriage should be the ground for dismissal for a public school teacher such a law would have thereby been rendered unconstitutional.

"If one can imagine a married man who has assumed the duties of husband and father and head of household and yet gives to the duties incident to such position no attention whatever, gives no thought to his family, gives no time or attention to the household of which he is the head, you would hardly choose such an individual as the person to whom you would entrust the care and education of your children in the public schools.

"The law of this State recognizes the woman's right to enter into the marriage relation and the Legislature would not have the power to say that marriage, declared to be lawful, was a just ground for the dismissal of a public school teacher."

Athletic Director

HELEN CASE of Utah is said to be the first and only woman athletic director in public co-educational schools. She holds her unique position in Ogden, Utah.

Protests Classification

THE habit which legislators have of classing women and children together was protested by Lorena Hitch of Portsmouth at a convention of the Virginia Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

Only recently women were classed with idiots, Miss Hitch complained.

The convention passed a resolution protesting State endorsement by Virginia of the proposed future legislative program to be drawn up by the Southern Council on Women and Children in industry.

Yachtswoman

WHEN ten yachts slipped out from Newport recently on their 3,000-mile race to Plymouth, England, a woman was at the wheel of one of them, racing against veteran salts.

The woman was Mrs. William Roos, wife of the owner of the New York ketch Lismore and a member of its crew.

Likes Married Women Workers

THE July *American Magazine* has a highly entertaining article on "How to Become a Millionaire," by Jerome Beatty. It is a study of the methods of Kenneth Collins, director of publicity and executive vice-president of the R. H. Macy Company of New York City, one of the country's largest department stores. It is instructive to note that Mr. Collins's department consists mostly of women.

"Since women do 85 per cent. of the buying in this store," the article quotes him as stating, "I believe that most of the copy should be written by women."

The salaries are all said to be large, and one of his copywriters is said to be paid $20,000 a year. Many of the women on his staff are married.

"I like to employ women with families," Mr. Collins is further quoted as explaining: "The more children they have, the better copy they can write about infant's wear."

News from the Field

Trees for Great Americans

THREE flourishing trees on the farm of Mrs. Robert F. Hudson, State chairman of the Woman's Party for Virginia, honor three great Americans. The American Tree Association has just been informed officially that a dogwood — Virginia's State flower — has been planted there in memory of George Washington, and should be so registered; an oak to commemorate the achievements of Alice Paul, and a silver maple in honor of Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley.

Indiana Entertains Candidates

ON JULY 21 the Indiana State Branch of the National Woman's Party inaugurated a series of weekly luncheons, with candidates from the political parties as successive guests of honor. "These are educational luncheons," announced Mrs. Hereford Dugan, legislative chairman for Indiana. "We're going to educate the candidates in the purpose of the National Woman's Party!" Colonel Paul McAult, slated to be Democratic candidate for Governor, was the first of these guests; and the Hon. Ward Hines, Republican, the second.

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